

United States Congress

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 14, 2014

Mr. Shawn M. Garvin
Regional Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Hon. Robert Summers
Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment
Air & Radiation Management
Administration
Docket 21-13
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 720
Baltimore, MD 21230

RE: Modernization of Holcim (US) Hagerstown, MD Cement Plant (Docket: 21-13)

Dear Administrator Garvin and Secretary Summers:

We are writing in support of the modernization of the Hagerstown Plant proposed by Holcim (US) and to urge the State's Department of the Environment to expedite the review and issuance of a decision on the company's request for a permit to construct and a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit that are required for the planned improvements to the Hagerstown Plant under the New Source Review permits (NSR) section of the Clean Air Act. Our interest in this project is based on the substantial economic and environmental benefits that will accompany the modernization of this plant for the community of Hagerstown and Western Maryland more broadly.

Over the last decade, Holcim (US) has invested more than \$2 billion to upgrade and expand its U.S. facilities. The modernization of the Hagerstown Plant is the latest example of this sustained commitment. The Hagerstown quarry and cement plant have been operating for more than 110 years. The modernization project will ensure that this facility will continue to be a mainstay of Maryland's economy for many more years to come. The plant currently employs more than 90 people and contributes more than \$30 million to the local economy annually. Up to 300 construction jobs will be created during the modernization project, and the operation of the upgraded plant will require the addition of several new jobs.

The community will not only enjoy economic benefits from the modernization, but environmental ones as well. The modernization will enable the plant to achieve compliance with new federal air quality regulations. As a result, the upgraded plant will reduce its environmental footprint. Additionally, the plant will achieve considerably improved energy efficiency.

The modernization project will enable the Hagerstown Plant to be a shining example of sustainability through economic investment and environmental performance in the State of Maryland. As such, we urge you to quickly review and issue a decision on the permits Holcim (US) has applied for so that construction to on the facilities needed for the Plant to achieve Clean Air Act compliance may move forward.

Sincerely,



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator



John Delaney
United States Representative

BLC:jrk